

In the Claims;

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Amended) A mechanical dishwashing composition comprising:

(A) an anti-scaling polymer formed from

(i) 50 to 99% by weight of the polymer of an olefinically unsaturated carboxylic monomer;

(ii) 1 to 50% of at least one monomer unit selected from the group consisting of copolymerizable sulfonated monomers, copolymerizable nonionic monomers and mixtures thereof;

(B) 0.1 to 99.9% of a vehicle designed to release at least an effective amount of the polymer to prevent scaling ;

wherein said polymer is released into a penultimate rinse cycle of a dishwashing sequence;

wherein said vehicle of (B) is defined as (1) the sum of all components forming said composition except for said antiscaling polymer; or (2) an encapsulating material or other slow release protective chemical or device.

3. (Amended) The composition according to claim 1 wherein said vehicle is designed to further release at least an effective amount of the polymer into a final rinse of the dishwashing cycle to prevent scaling.

7. (Amended) The composition according to claim 1 wherein the olefinically unsaturated carboxylic monomer is in acid or salt form selected from the group consisting of aliphatic acids, monocarboxylic acids, dicarboxylic acids, polycarboxylic acids and mixtures thereof.

12. (Amended) A method for washing soiled dishes comprising charging a mechanical dishwashing composition to a wash liquor in a washing machine, the composition comprising:

(A) an anti-scaling polymer formed from

(i) 50 to 99% by weight of the polymer of an olefinically unsaturated carboxylic acid monomer;

(ii) 1 to 50% of at least one monomer unit selected from the group consisting of copolymerizable sulfonated monomers, copolymerizable nonionic monomers and mixtures thereof;

(B) 0.1 to 99.9% of a vehicle designed to release at least an effective amount of the polymer to prevent scaling;

wherein said vehicle of B is defined as (1) the sum of all components forming said composition except for said anti-scaling polymer; or (2) an encapsulating material or other slow release protective chemical or device;

wherein said method comprises changing said dishwashing composition to a penultimate rinse cycle of a dishwashing sequence.